

of the design of the reactor, in the context of the site parameters postulated for the design; environmental matters; or antitrust aspects of the application.

(b) If a separate hearing is held on a particular phase of the proceeding, the Commission or presiding officers of each affected proceeding may, pursuant to § 2.716, consolidate for hearing on that phase two or more proceedings to consider common issues relating to the applications involved in the proceedings, if it finds that such action will be conducive to the proper dispatch of its business and to the ends of justice. In fixing the place of any such consolidated hearing due regard will be given to the convenience and necessity of the parties, petitioners for leave to intervene or the attorneys or representatives of such persons, and the public interest.

[40 FR 2976, Jan. 17, 1975, as amended at 43 FR 17801, Apr. 26, 1978; 54 FR 15398, Apr. 18, 1989]

§ 2.403 Notice of proposed action on applications for operating licenses pursuant to appendix N of part 52.

In the case of applications pursuant to appendix N of part 52 of this chapter for operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, if the Commission has not found that a hearing is in the public interest, the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation will, prior to acting thereon, cause to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, pursuant to § 2.105, a notice of proposed action with respect to each application as soon as practicable after the applications have been docketed.

[40 FR 2976, Jan. 17, 1975, as amended at 54 FR 15398, Apr. 18, 1989]

§ 2.404 Hearings on applications for operating licenses pursuant to appendix N of part 52.

If a request for a hearing and/or petition for leave to intervene is filed within the time prescribed in the notice of proposed action on an application for an operating license pursuant to appendix N of part 52 of this chapter with respect to a specific reactor(s) at a specific site and the Commission or an

atomic safety and licensing board designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel has issued a notice of hearing or other appropriate order, the Commission or the atomic safety and licensing board may order separate hearings on particular phases of the proceeding and/or consolidate for hearing two or more proceedings in the manner described in § 2.402.

[40 FR 2976, Jan. 17, 1975, as amended at 54 FR 15398, Apr. 18, 1989]

§ 2.405 Initial decisions in consolidated hearings.

At the conclusion of any hearing held pursuant to this subpart, the presiding officer will render a partial initial decision which may be appealed pursuant to § 2.762. No construction permit or full power operating license will be issued until an initial decision has been issued on all phases of the hearing and all issues under the Act and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 appropriate to the proceeding have been resolved.

§ 2.406 Finality of decisions on separate issues.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, in a proceeding conducted pursuant to this subpart and appendix N of part 52 of this chapter, no matter which has been reserved for consideration in one phase of the hearing shall be considered at another phase of the hearing except on the basis of significant new information that substantially affects the conclusion(s) reached at the other phase or other good cause.

[40 FR 2976, Jan. 17, 1975, as amended at 54 FR 15398, Apr. 18, 1989]

§ 2.407 Applicability of other sections.

The provisions of subparts A and G relating to construction permits and operating licenses apply, respectively, to construction permits and operating licenses subject to this subpart, except as qualified by the provisions of this subpart.